

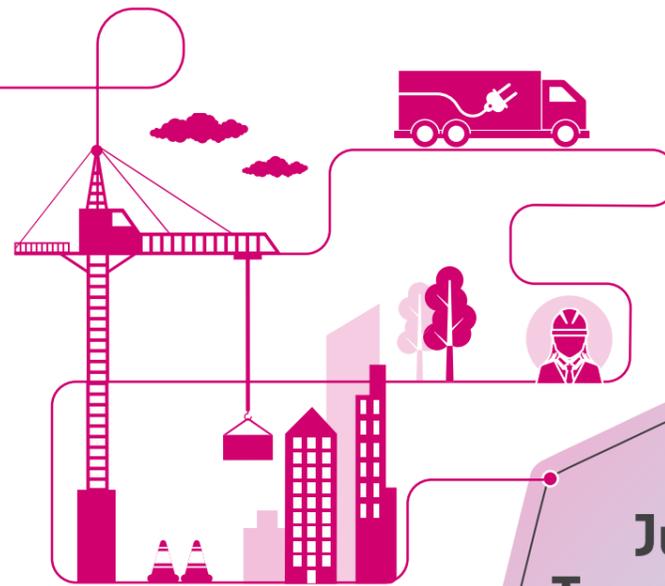
Building a just transition to net zero

The transition to a net zero carbon built environment will unavoidably impact us socially and economically. It's critical we avoid deepening existing inequalities, and support a just transition – one which improves lives and livelihoods, 'levels up' across communities

and leaves no-one behind. This graphic highlights some of the opportunities for the built environment sector to support a just transition to net zero carbon. It is intended as a provocation and inspiration for further dialogue and exploration of these themes.

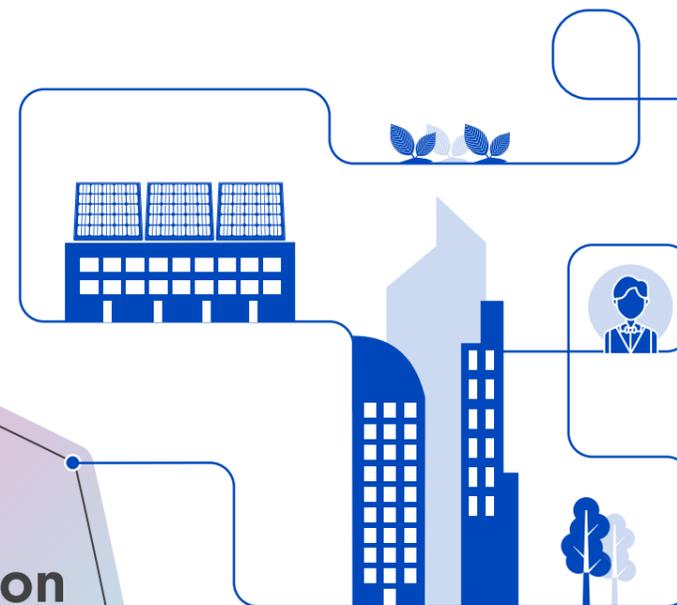
Construction and supply chain

- **Ensure** socially responsible as well as ecologically sustainable sourcing of low carbon materials.
- **Support** local economies by sourcing materials locally, as well as sustainably.
- **Give** surplus construction materials to community-led projects.
- **Embrace** offsite manufacturing to reduce local air and noise pollution.
- **Invest** in skills and training for low carbon construction and product manufacturing.
- **Help** underrepresented groups to access new green job opportunities.



New development

- **Work** collaboratively with residents to ensure community support for low-carbon initiatives.
- **Consider** how disadvantaged householders can avoid lower property values compared to highly energy efficient new builds.



Just Transition

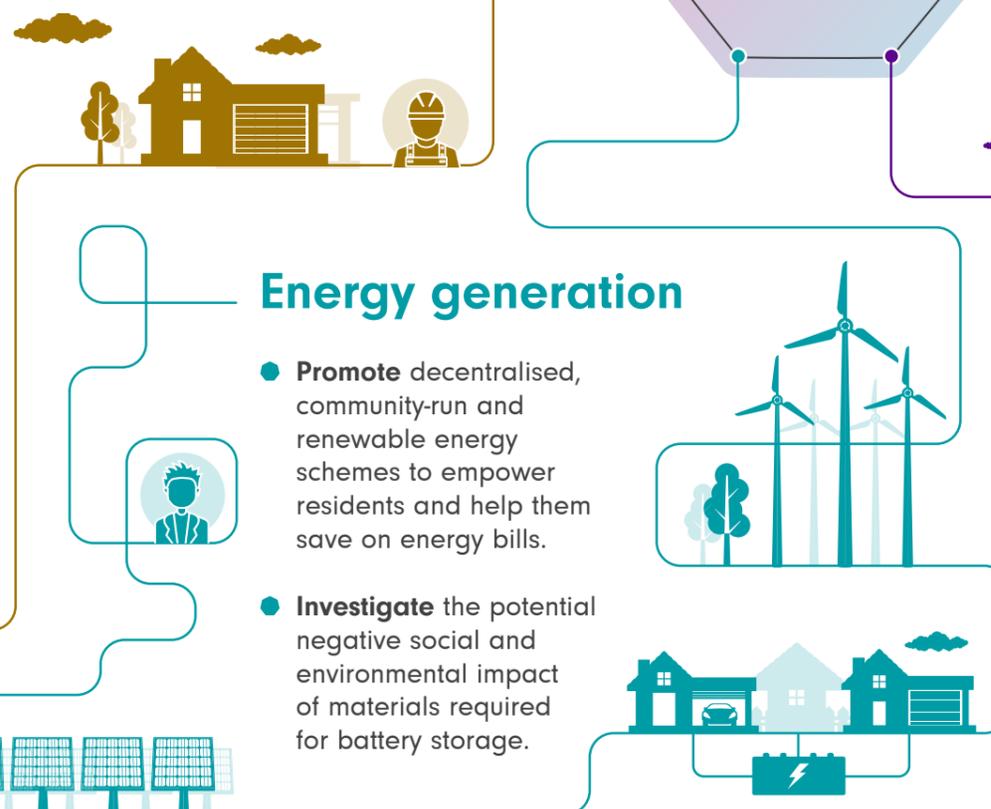
Home retrofit

- **Enable** all households to implement retrofit measures and access funding schemes.
- **Consider** how to prevent unintended social consequences of national retrofit policies, which may disadvantage residents occupying energy inefficient homes.



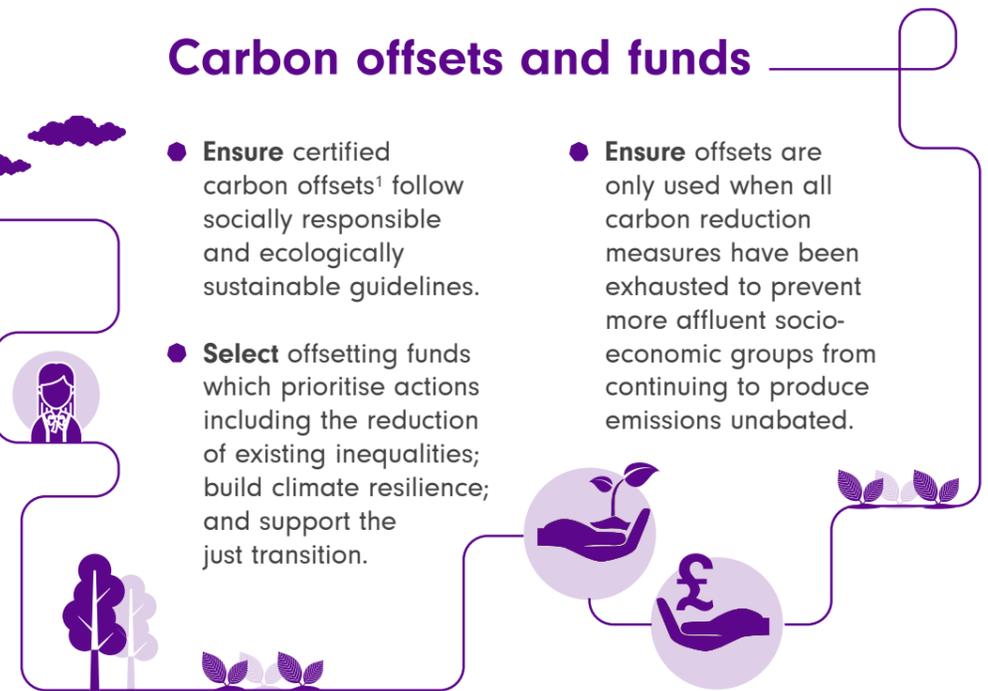
Energy generation

- **Promote** decentralised, community-run and renewable energy schemes to empower residents and help them save on energy bills.
- **Investigate** the potential negative social and environmental impact of materials required for battery storage.



Carbon offsets and funds

- **Ensure** certified carbon offsets¹ follow socially responsible and ecologically sustainable guidelines.
- **Select** offsetting funds which prioritise actions including the reduction of existing inequalities; build climate resilience; and support the just transition.
- **Ensure** offsets are only used when all carbon reduction measures have been exhausted to prevent more affluent socio-economic groups from continuing to produce emissions unabated.



Note: 1. Aligning with UKGBC guidance on Renewable Procurement and Carbon Offsets (under review period) to be launched in March 2021 [here](#)